



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION condemning the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, and calling for action.

Whereas, Since February 2003, government-backed militias, known as the Janjaweed, have been engaging in a systematic program of expulsion, starvation, rape, and murderous violence to wipe out entire communities of African tribal farmers, resulting in the death of over 335,000 innocent civilians and the internal displacement of over two million people, only half of whom are receiving aid, and 213,000 of whom are refugees having fled to neighboring Chad:

Whereas, Nearly 1.5 million people are currently receiving food assistance, 22% of whom are under the age of five, and roughly 10,000 people per month are dying from disease or malnutrition;

Whereas, In recent months, the situation has deteriorated significantly, the fighting has escalated, and several relief organizations, unable to protect their workers, have pulled out of the region, further limiting access to protection and aid for refugees;

Whereas, The United States Administration and Congress have termed the crisis in Sudan "genocide";

Whereas, President Bush has demanded that the Sudanese government stop the genocide in the Darfur region, the United States House and Senate have voted unanimously to condemn the genocide in Darfur, and, for the first time in its

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history, the Committee on Conscience of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has declared a "genocide emergency" in Sudan; and

Whereas, The Indiana General Assembly looks in horror upon the persecution of any group based on race, religion, ethnicity, or other distinctions used to degrade the value of any human life and, that as people of conscience, we have a responsibility to speak out in the face of genocide: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the Senate concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly commends the Bush Administration and Congress, as well as the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, for their leadership in declaring the Sudanese crisis "genocide" and for seeking a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Darfur and addressing the humanitarian crisis.

SECTION 2. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses its serious concern over the growing insecurity and violence in Darfur, the region's dire humanitarian situation, continued violations of human rights, and repeated breaches of the cease fire.

SECTION 3. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses its outrage at the inaction of the international community and calls on Congress and President Bush to provide the necessary leadership for an international effort to stop the genocide in Darfur, encourage humanitarian assistance to all those in need, and make the protection of the civilian population the highest priority.

SECTION 4. That the Indiana General Assembly encourages statewide activism and increased awareness through education of the situation in the Sudan.

SECTION 5. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States and the members of the Indiana congressional delegation.

